

**Minutes Approved - June 8, 2006**

**CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**MAY 25, 2006**

**MINUTES**

**The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, May 25, 2006 at the Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order at 7:36 PM, by Chairman Paul Neves, with the following present:**

**Paul Neves, Chairman, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DaCosta, Clerk,**

**Rosa Crowley, Linda Teel, Robert C. Thibodeau, Earl T. Wood**

**Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Ed.D., Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director of Administration**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance - The Pledge of Allegiance was led by committee members.**

**II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the agenda, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived.**

**III. Chairperson's Report - Mr. Neves commented that this is the best time of the year for a School Committee member, noting he attended the National Honor Society induction and the thousands of dollars the students obtained in scholarships.**

#### **IV. Comments from the Public**

**A. Public Comments - None.**

**B. Student Government Report - The Superintendent acknowledged Jason Anastasiades' position as a liaison to Student Government at the High School and that he is graduating this year. Jason reported on the many student activities held this year, as well as blood drives and fund raising efforts. They provided 75 families with Thanksgiving meals and three families with presents for Christmas. He read a letter from the President of Student Government and noted Kyle Cunningham will be taking his place next year.**

#### **V. Reports of Standing Committees**

**A. Personnel Committee - Mr. Wood reported the committee reviewed the head custodian job description and there were no changes. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta and Ms. Crowley, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the Head Custodian job description as presented, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived.**

**B. Rules & Regulations - Mr. DaCosta reported meeting to review the Use of Facilities policy.**

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### **C. Finance Committee**

**1. Payment of Invoices - On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the payment of invoices in the amount of \$958,474.80, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived.**

#### **2. Approval of Bids**

**a. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the bid for new lock sets and keys throughout the district (Capital Improvement Fund) of New England School Services of Medford, MA, not to exceed the amount of \$12,464, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived.**

**b. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the bid by O'Keefe Building Maintenance, Blackstone, MA, for refinishing the gym and stage floor, not to exceed the amount of \$8,147. It was noted there may be a deduction for the Trans gym, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived.**

**c. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the bid for carpet cleaning '06-'07 to Janotech, Cumberland, RI, not to exceed \$4,371.92, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived. Discussion ensued regarding the high traffic in front of the Transitional office and carpet condition. Mr. Hilton explained there is a replacement carpet, but it is expensive. Mr. Costa asked Ms. Dutremble to add this to the next finance**

**committee meeting.**

**d. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was VOTED 6-0 TO APPROVE the purchase of energy from bid tabulations provided by the Silent Serpa for a 12 month option, with Mr. Thibodeau not having arrived. Purchase is from Trans Canada.**

**Mr. Thibodeau's arrival is noted at 7:55 p.m.**

**e. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the budget transfer for funding for the second quarterly payment to Beacon Charter School.**

**f. Mr. Costa reported the committee tabled the renewal of the Sodexo contract. Sodexo has recommended an increase in lunch prices from \$1.50 to \$1.75 for elementary; \$1.75 to \$2.00 for both middle and high schools. He explained he wanted to discuss this with the principals before bringing it to the full committee.**

## **VI. Consent Agenda**

**A. Personnel - The Superintendent presented the following:**

**1. On a motion by Ms. Crowley, and a second by Mr. Costa, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the retirement of Maureen Lane, Teacher Assistant, at B.F. Norton School, effective 6/21/2006.**

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2. Mr. Costa made a motion to approve the retirement of Dina Dutremble, Business Manager, at the Administration Office, effective 7/29/2006. Mr. DaCosta provided a second. Discussion ensued regarding the date. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the amendment of 7/29 or such other date as is agreeable to the committee and Ms. Dutremble. It was VOTED 6-1 TO APPROVE the amended motion, with Mr. Wood voting against. Mr. Thibodeau noted his vote was with regret. The Chair commented that Ms. Dutremble will be greatly missed. Mr. Neves also noted Ms. Lane will be missed at B. F. Norton.

3. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta and Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Anne Damrad, School Psychologist (.4), in a Systemwide position, effective 5/30/2006, (FTE: 0.4, Step: 3. Advanced Lane: doctorate, Copay: 10%, (budgeted).

## **VII. Old Business**

A. Building Committee Update - The Superintendent reported that KBA and Dimeo have been meeting with her, the administration and Mr. Hilton on the design phase to make sure programming priorities have been identified relating to curriculum and student needs and then integrate that into the budget. KBA is looking at a design solution of the tech prep area. They are coming up against fiscal, code and compliance issues. There are decisions the building

committee has to make, but the school committee will have programming issues to make regarding programming issues. She hopes this can be resolved in the next couple weeks.

Mr. Wood reported the 3.5 Building Committee met last night and there was a presentation by KBA for conceptual designs for Ashton and JJM/Cumberland Hill. KBA will now be putting together a budget for those designs. Storage units will be in place for the windows and doors. The floor is in and being tested at the Wellness Center. The lockers will be going in.

**B. Search Committee Updates** - The Superintendent reported she interviewed finalists for the Assistant Superintendent and principal position at B.F. Norton. An ad has been placed for the middle school Assistant Principal and the Business Manager.

## **VIII. New Business**

**A. Recognition of Students Named as State and National Award Winners in the French Contest - “Le Grand Concours”** - Ms. Cooney reported on the following placements: Level 1: Patrick Verdier 1st ; Emily Yang 3rd , Danielle Cardin 4th , Cheleen Burke 9th , Erin Wood 10th ; Level 2: Dan Agabiti 6th ; Level 4: Courtney Redihan 7th ; Katherine Lewinski 8th ; Level 5: Ross Cunningham 1st ; Alison Hansen-Decelles 8th. At the National Level: Level 1: Patrick Verier 2nd ; Emily Yang 7th , Danielle Cardin 8th; Level 2: Dan Agabiti 8th; Level 5: Ross Cunningham 2nd.

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**The Superintendent asked the students to come to the dias to be congratulated by the committee. She also congratulated the teachers and parents. Dr. Morelle recognized Ms. Cooney and noted she will be missed.**

**B. School Community Relations Policy - 1st Reading - Mr. DaCosta performed the first reading.**

**C. Affirmative Action Policy - 1st Reading - The reading was waived as it is the same document as past years. Mr. Rotella noted it is placed in a newspaper of general circulation annually. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the policy for 2006-2007.**

**D. Approval of Revised District Strategic Plan with Accompanying Presentation - The Superintendent reported the Strategic Plan set the goals and objectives for the district and was initially endorsed in 2003. Mr. Barrett read a portion of the Vision for Education in Cumberland and discussed the technology action plan. Ms. Moore spoke on the role of parents. Dr. Morelle reported the number of action plans relating to academics and performance, noting the middle level reform. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley and Mr. Thibodeau, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the Strategic Plan 2003-2008.**

**IX. Superintendent's Report - The Superintendent commented that**

she has appreciated all of Ms. Dutremble's work and she will be greatly missed. She also noted that the information on school classifications will be released on June 7th and would like to provide some technical information on the various classifications and what will be needed to move forward.

**X. Comments from the Public - None.**

**XI. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Mr. Wood reported that the playground at JJM/Cumberland Hill will be built June 3rd and everyone is invited. The Junior Olympics will be held at Tucker Field June 4th. Mr. Wood commented on the Ashton/B.F. Norton health fair. Ms. Teel reported on the Community School talent show and next Wednesday will be report night. Mr. Neves reminded the public that Graduation will be June 6th. The budget hearings are scheduled for June 1st at B.F. Norton at 7:00 p.m. The Chair noted a second meeting scheduled at McCourt for June 8th conflicts with the school committee meeting, but is listed as a Finance Subcommittee Hearing. The third hearing and first vote will be at North Cumberland Middle School on June 12th at 7:00 p.m. and the final vote will be June 15th at 7:00 p.m. at the Cumberland High School Auditorium.**

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**XII. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action Items Referred to in GLRI 42-46-5**

**A. Personnel Matters - Exception (1)**

**1. CTA/ICSE**

**B. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)**

**1. CTA/ICSE**

**2. Central Administrators' Contracts**

**3. Non-Contractual Salaries**

**Mr. Costa made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session. Mr. DaCosta provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning the meeting at 9:02 p.m.**

**Open Session was reconvened at 9:14 p.m. On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE sealing the Executive Session minutes.**

**XIII. Adjournment - On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE adjourning Open Session at 9:15 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Shirley Harris**

**Recording Secretary**

**Approval by the School Committee June 8, 2006**